

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is an egregious abuse of corporate power and a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Local station directors should have control over what they want to air, and when they want to air it. Having to bow to pressure from a corporate headquarters thousands of miles away, means they are not serving their community.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.